FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 12/11/63

M/Sgt. JAMES S. KING, Category Test Branch, School Operations, 3380 Technical School, Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi, advised that in 1957 he was an Instructor-Supervisor on "A" Shift, of Course ABR-27330, or the Aircraft Control and Warning Operators Course. (AC and WO). He said hundreds of U. S. Marines were taking this course during that year, and all were assigned to "A" Shift, meaning the period from 6:00 AM to noon, Monday through Friday. He said he never knew LEE HARVEY OSWALD nor does he remember this name.

KING said he recalled that all of the Marines taking this course of instruction were housed in barracks of the 3386th School Squadron. They were all kept together and he does not recall that Air Force and Marine students were mixed. He said there is no way to tell who may have been billeted in the barracks with OSWALD; that there is no way to be certain just which barracks building had been used to house the Marines, or the one OSWALD may have lived in.

Advice was also furnished by KING, that the orders putting OSWALD in the AC & WO course, and ordering him back to his regular duty station, might contain names of other Marines moving on those same orders, and these persons might recall OSWALD. KING said he was quite certain none of the short-course Marine students had been given permission to have off-base housing. He said that Major TONY PUMA, he believed, was the Commanding Officer of Squadron 3386 at the time,e.g., 1957; that PUMA is now retired and believed to be residing somewhere in New York State. KING said that PUMA had no direct or personal contact with the "high-flow" students, did not come in contact with them; that he would be unlikely to know any of those taking the course.

M/Sgt. KING related that the Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge for the Marine Corps, taking the AC & WO Course at Keesler AFB, during 1957, was a M/Sgt. (FNU) SLATER, who later went to the Naval Base at San Diego, California, as a Warrant Officer, and may now be retired,

On 12/10/63 at Keesler AFB, Mississippi File # NO 100-16601

by SA H. WARREN TOOL, JR. /mh Date dictated 12/10/63

58

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

since his location is unknown for the past several years. He said SLATER was assigned to look after those Marine students who came to Keesler Air Force Base to take the course; that SLATER was a Marine and was assisted by a then S/Sgt. (FNU) GILPIN, and a Sgt. (FNU) GAMBLE. He said these men were, so far as he knew, all assigned to the Marine Corps, but were merely attached to Keesler AFB, Mississippi, to assist in the problems that might arise with the students of the Marines who attended. He said SLATER conducted the barracks inspections, etc., kept all records for the Marines of those in attendance at the course. He said he did not know where GILPIN and/or GAMBLE could be found. He said he obtained these names from his personal files at his residence and knew of no place, except the Marine Corps, where their identities in full, or present locations could be found.

KING said that so far as he knew, all Marines attending the AC & WO course lived in barracks on the base at Keesler Air Force Base, during the tenure of the course.

59